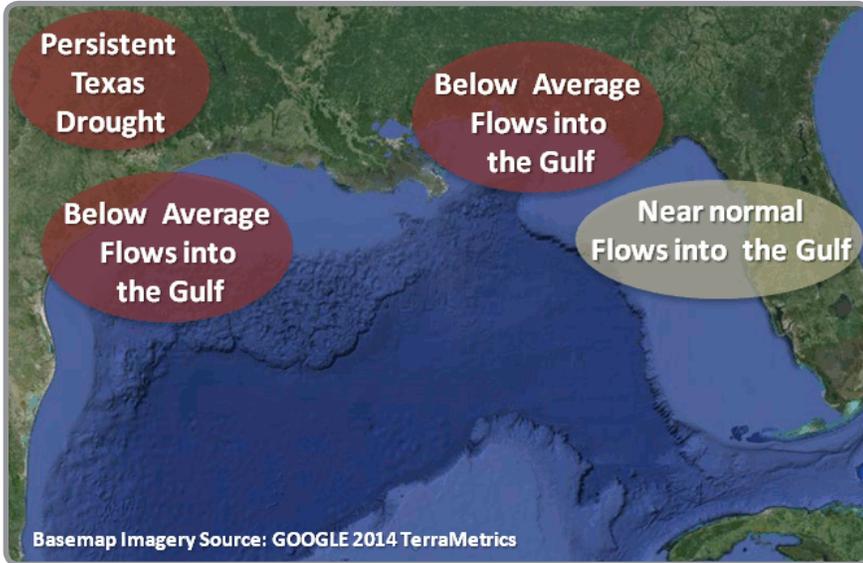


Significant Gulf Coast Events for Fall 2014



Highlights

Coastal River Flows

Discharge values over the summer months were below normal, with the exception of the Florida peninsula where flows were near to slightly above normal.

El Niño

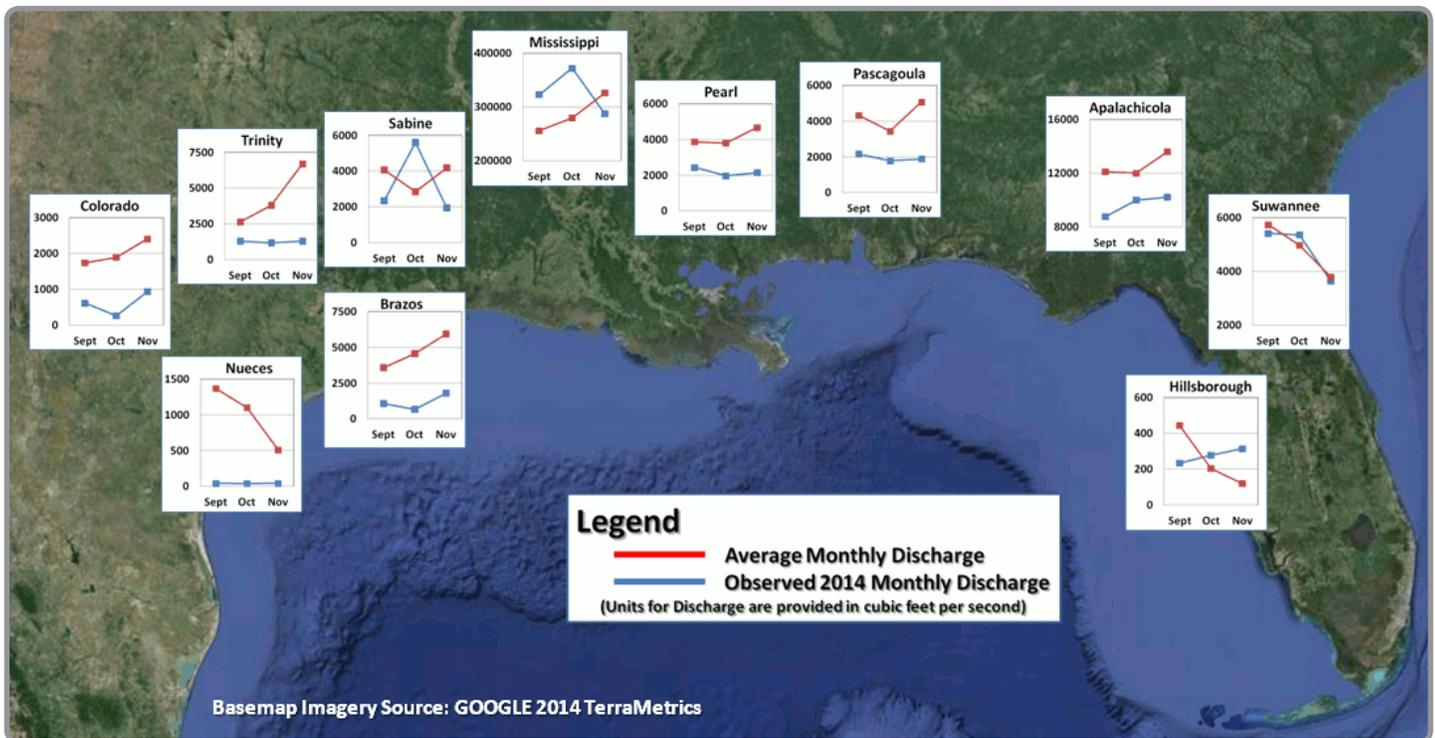
Forecasts of the weak El Niño indicate that there is an approximately 65% chance that El Niño conditions will be present during the Northern Hemisphere winter and last into the Northern Hemisphere spring 2015.

2014 Hurricane Season

A summary of the 2014 hurricane season shows near average hurricane counts but very little activity within the Gulf of Mexico.

River Discharge Data for Select Rivers that Flow into the Gulf of Mexico

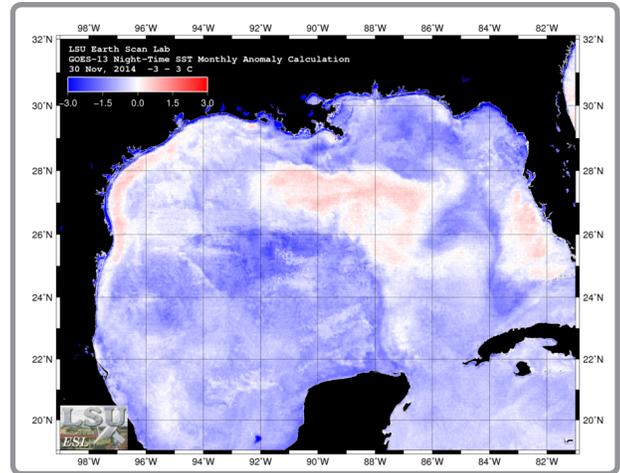
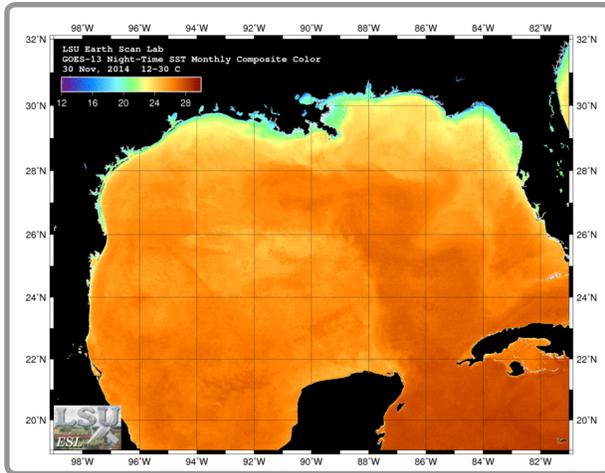
Seasonal Discharges Indicate Below Average Flows across Much of the Gulf Coast



September–November Monthly Discharge Values for Select Rivers that Flow into the Gulf of Mexico

The above figure shows below average flows across most of the Gulf of Mexico. These anomalies are primarily due to persistent dryness in the southern United States. Streamflow values in southern Florida are near normal along the Suwannee River and slightly above normal along the Hillsborough River. (Data Source: waterdata.usgs.gov).

Gulf Sea Surface Temperatures and Temperature Anomalies

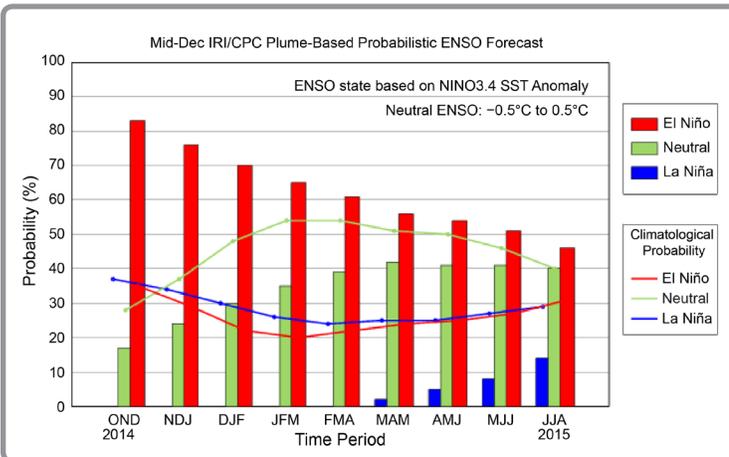


GOES Sea Surface Temperatures and Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies for November 2014

The above imagery illustrates a slightly cooler than normal Gulf of Mexico in November. Sea surface temperatures are near to slightly above normal in the central and southeastern portion of the Gulf due to the active Loop Current.

Imagery provided courtesy of Chet Pilley (cpille1@lsu.edu) and Nan Walker (nwalker@lsu.edu), Earth Scan Laboratory, LSU School of the Coast and Environment, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (<http://www.esl.lsu.edu>).

Outlook: El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)



A weak El Niño signal is evident in the ocean. The chance of an El Niño occurring is about 65% during the Northern Hemisphere winter and spring.

Image is provided courtesy of the International Research Institute for Climate and Society.

Image available at: <http://iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/ens0>

Gulf Region Partners

Earth Scan Lab at Louisiana State University
www.esl.lsu.edu

NOAA/NWS Climate Prediction Center
www.cpc.noaa.gov

NOAA/NOS Gulf of Mexico Coastal Services Center
www.csc.noaa.gov

NOAA Gulf of Mexico Collaboration Team
www.regions.noaa.gov

NOAA/NESDIS National Climatic Data Center
www.ncdc.noaa.gov

NOAA/NWS Southern Region
www.srh.noaa.gov

Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program
www.southernclimate.org

Southern Regional Climate Center
www.srcc.lsu.edu

2014 Hurricane Season Summary

	NOAA Predicted	Klotzbach-Gray CSU Predicted	Seasonal Average	2013 Total
Named Storms	7 to 12	9	12	8
Hurricanes	3 to 6	3	6	6
Major Hurricanes (category 3 or higher)	0 to 2	1	3	2

The 2014 Hurricane season ended on November 30, 2014. As predicted, the number of named storms was less than the long-term seasonal average. Cumulatively, there were eight named storms, six of which were hurricanes. Of those six, two were major hurricanes. Fortunately, there were no hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, only two tropical storms. These include Tropical Storm Dolly, which occurred between September 1 and September 3, and Tropical Storm Hanna, which occurred between October 22 and October 28. Both storms tracked through the Bay of Campeche and were not a major threat to the United States.